

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9178

S E C R E T ROME 12395

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELLE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: JOSHUA NKOMO'S VISIT TO EUROPE, SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN

REF: STATE 187114

1. NKOMO'S ASSISTANT NDLOVU CALLED ON DCM THIS MORNING. HE ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY MESSAGES FOR HIM AND WAS TOLD THAT THERE WERE NONE BUT THAT WE WISHED TO KNOW IF THEIR PLANS HAD CHANGED. NDLOVU STATED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO CHANGES IN ONWARD TRAVEL PLANS. HE SAID THAT THE "DELEGATION" MUST LEAVE FOR JIDDA AUGUST 4. PLANS FOR TEHRAN WOULD BE MADE IN JIDDA AND NDLOVU SAID THAT THEY WOULD BE DISCUSSING THESE MATTERS WITH AMBASSADOR PORTER IN JIDDA. NDLOVU SAID THEY PLANNED TO OBTAIN IRANIAN VISAS IN JIDDA.

2. GROUP PLANS TO TRAVEL TO TURIN AUGUST 1 AND RETURN DURING THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 3. NDLOVU INDICATED SOME PROBLEMS IN OBTAINING AIRLINE RESERVATIONS AND SAUDI VISAS. DCM OFFERED TO HELP THEM GET AN APPOINTMENT FOR VISAS FROM THE SAUDIS ON AUGUST 2 AND SUGGESTED THAT NDLOVU MIGHT REMAIN IN ROME RATHER THAN GO TO TURIN IN ORDER TO CLEAR UP THE VISA AND AIRLINE PROBLEM. NDLOVU SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE CHECKING THE AIRLINES AND CONSULT HIS COLLEAGUES,

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PAGE 02 ROME 12395 311013Z

THEN GET BACK IN TOUCH WITH US.VOLPE

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